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with his conscience, if he has not already done so, to determine in the light of "the truth as it is in Jesus" how he will act.

Brevities.

. . . A Portuguese League of Peace has just been founded at Lisbon. Most cordial and fraternal salutations to the new organization.

. . . We greatly regret to learn of the death of Aaron M. Powell of the Purity Alliance, New York, editor of the *Philanthropist*. He was an experienced and loyal friend of peace.

. . . The August number of the *New England Magazine*, 5 Park Square, Boston, will contain an illustrated article on the Hague Conference, by Benjamin F. Trueblood.

. . . The Venezuela arbitration tribunal has commenced its work at Paris. The time so far has been taken up by Sir Richard Webster in presenting the British side of the case in a long historical review.

. . . One of the most interesting meetings at the great Woman's Congress in London was that on arbitration, arranged for by a committee of which Lady Aberdeen was chairman. A number of the leading peace women from different countries gave ten minute addresses.

. . . The national Christian Endeavor Convention recently held at Detroit was one of the most successful which the United Society has ever held. One great meeting was devoted to arbitration and peace, the society now having made this a fixed and prominent part of its program.

. . . The Universal Peace Union, in addition to its regular annual convention at Mystic, Ct., on the 23d to the 26th of August, is conducting a summer school in the Peace Grove and Temple. It is expecting a large number of peace workers to give instruction and lectures. For information address Rev. Amanda Deyo, Mystic, Ct.

. . . The sixth season of summer lectures at Greenacre, Eliot, Me., was opened on July 1. As is her rule, Miss Farmer devoted the opening days to the subject of peace. Among the speakers on peace were Dr. Lewis G. Janes, of Cambridge, Rev. Samuel Richard Fuller, of Boston, and Rev. Benjamin Fay Mills.

Proceedings of the International Peace Conference.

The International Conference on Peace and Disarmament called by the Czar of Russia opened at The Hague on Thursday, May 18, at 2.15 o'clock P. M., in the Orange Hall in the Queen's "House in the Woods." When the Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. de Beaufort, to whose lot it fell on behalf of the Dutch government to open the Conference, rapped on the table for order, "a great silence" fell upon the little group of diplomats gathered in the hall. There were less than one hundred of them, and there were present besides them only a small group of representatives of the press, the Baroness

von Suttner, whose name is the best known of the peace propagandists of Europe, and an English Friend, Francis William Fox, a member of the British Peace Crusade Committee. All these "outsiders" sat in the gallery of the dome forty feet above the heads of the delegates, and their presence was scarcely known to the latter.

The hall, which is an octagonal one, and covered, sides and dome, with paintings by famous Dutch painters of the seventeenth century, was just large enough to accommodate the gathering. It had been specially fitted up for the occasion. The hard floor had been carpeted, and the seats for the delegates put upon a raised temporary floor, sloping in to the center from two directions. The president's chair was on the south side, windows looking out from behind it on the beautiful gardens in the rear of the palace. The seats of the delegations had been chosen alphabetically. The delegates sat facing one another from the two sides, except that seats for the Russian delegation had been prepared to the right and left of the president's chair, at a horseshoe-shaped table. The table for the secretaries was in front of the chair. On the desk in front of each delegate was a portfolio on which was inscribed in French "Conférence de la Haye, 1899." The delegates were all in plain morning dress, with the exception of three or four military and naval men, one of these being Captain Mahan, who was in naval uniform. There was a conspicuous absence throughout the Conference of anything of a military character, except that now and then a military delegate might be seen striding away somewhere in uniform. It was a little curious to see at a Peace Conference a soldier, not a policeman, standing guard at the gateway, and permitting no one to enter without his delegate's or visitor's card. But these soldiers belonged to the ordinary royal guard, and might have been seen at any other time just the same. When the delegates were in their places Mr. de Beaufort opened the Conference with the following brief address of welcome:

"In the name of my August Sovereign, I have the honor to bid you welcome, and to express the feelings of profound respect and lively gratitude which I entertain towards the Emperor of All the Russias, who, in appointing The Hague as the meeting place of the Peace Conference, paid a high honor to our country. The Emperor of Russia, in taking that noble initiative, which has evoked the plaudits of the whole civilized world, desired to realize the wish expressed by one of his most illustrious predecessors, the Emperor Alexander I., to see all the sovereigns and all the nations of Europe come to an agreement among themselves to live together like brothers, aiding one another in their mutual necessities. Inspired by these noble traditions of his august ancestor, his Majesty proposed to all the governments whose representatives are here to-day the assembling of a Conference whose task should be to seek means for putting an end to incessant armaments and preventing the calamities which threaten the entire world.

"The day of the meeting of this Conference will be, without doubt, a day of mark in the history of the century which is about to close. It coincides with the fête which all the subjects of the Czar celebrate as a national holiday, and in associating myself from the bottom of